

## **MILWAUKEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Marcelia Nicholson - District 10 • Sheldon A. Wasserman - District 3

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## County Board Funds \$1.3 Million in Vital Park Maintenance Projects

MILWAUKEE – Today the Board of Supervisors unanimously allocated \$1.3 million towards major maintenance needs across the county's park system. Funding comes from an amendment to the 2023 Milwaukee County budget authored by Chairwoman Marcelia Nicholson.

"There aren't many places in our society that our residents are allowed to access without spending a dime. Our Milwaukee County Parks can be an inspiring and safe place to learn, exercise, and gather as a community. As such, they are a vital component of democratic society, and it is essential that we do all we can to maintain them," said Chairwoman Nicholson. "Making strategic investments in our parks helps us keep Milwaukee a place where people want to live, work, and visit. With limited resources at our disposal, I am happy to see us maximize our dollars with one-time projects that will make a tangible difference in the lives of our residents."

"Today marks an historic moment for our County Parks, as the County Board has demonstrated our commitment to enhancing and preserving green spaces for generations to come," said Parks and Culture Committee Chair Sheldon Wasserman. "This additional \$1.3 million will allow us to continue providing top-notch recreational opportunities and breathtaking natural surroundings for our residents and visitors to enjoy. I am proud to be a part of this community that values the importance of our parks, and I look forward to seeing the positive impact this investment will have on Milwaukee County."

Chairwoman Nicholson's November <u>budget amendment</u> required the Parks Department to provide a plan to Supervisors on the best use of these funds, while using a racial equity analysis, by this month in order to release funds. The Parks Department recommended projects that do not require future or ongoing funding.

Major projects included in this allocation include \$200,000 for systemwide pavilion and restroom renovations; \$150,000 to upgrade outdated high voltage electrical service at Washington and Madison parks; \$100,000 to upgrade HVAC controls at King, Kosciuszko, and Mitchell parks; and \$95,000 for systemwide athletic field renovations and sport court striping.